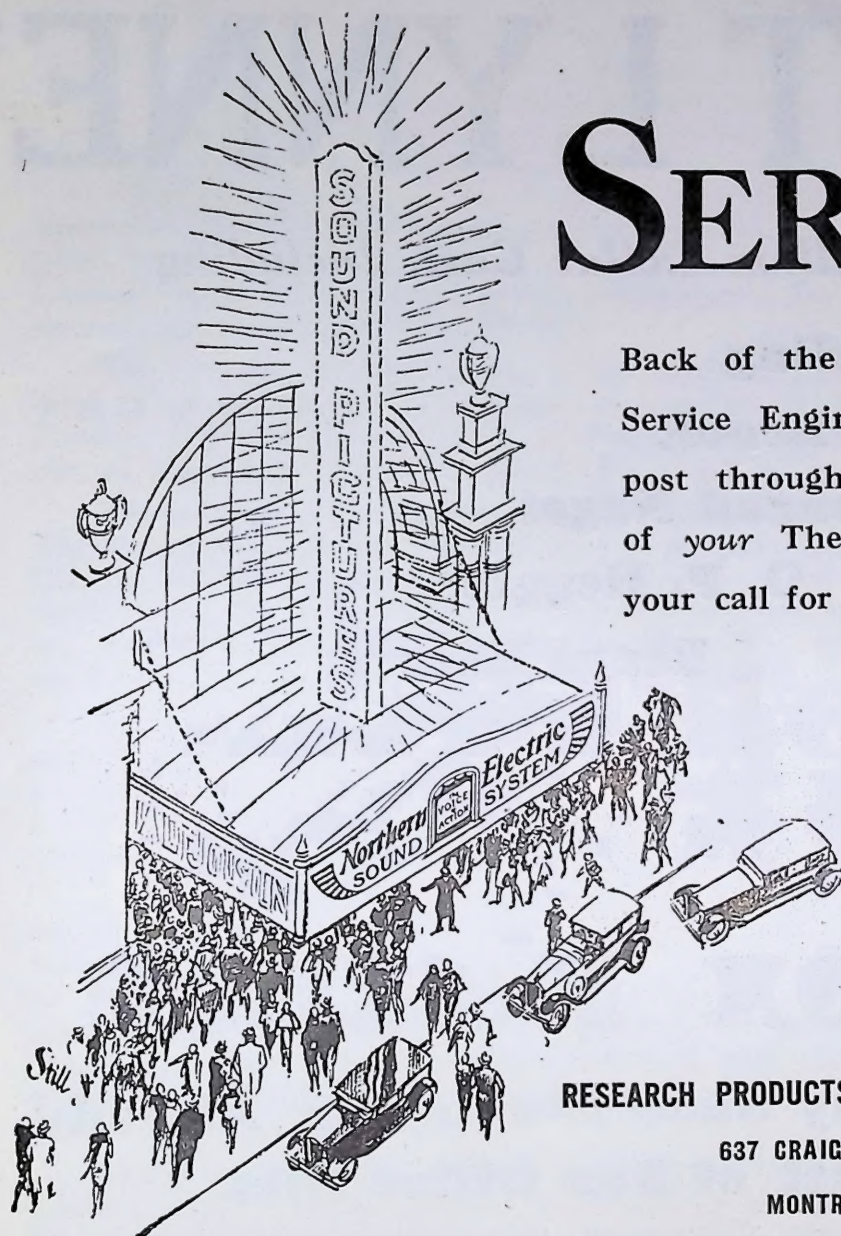




SERVICE

Back of the Sound System—is the Service Engineer. Stationed at his post through every operating hour of your Theatre—ready to answer your call for help.



RESEARCH PRODUCTS SALES DEPARTMENT

637 CRAIG STREET WEST

MONTREAL, P. Q.



Western Electric in U. S. A.

**Here's the Box Office
Stimulator You've Been
Hoping For--**

"EAST LYNNE"

With a Million Dollar Cast, Including

Ann Harding

Clive Brook

Conrad Nagel

O. P. Heggie

Beryl Mercer

David Torrence

And, Of Course, It's

A Fox Picture

**And a Worthy Successor to Our Already
Long List of Box Office Hits.**

Fox Film Corporation

HARLEY L. CLARKE, President.

Toronto - Montreal - St. John - Winnipeg - Calgary - Vancouver

Canadian Moving Picture DIGEST

Established in 1915 for
Exhibitors

Subscription: \$5.00 yearly

Telephone: Trinity 1481

Cable: Ontocanada

Published by Canadian
Moving Picture Digest
Company, Limited

259 Spadina Ave. - Toronto

RAY LEWIS

Editor and Managing Director

Vol. 22, No. 38

TORONTO 2, CANADA

January 17th, 1931

Government Investigates Control



THE PRESENT Government in Canada is establishing precedents by way of protecting public interests. For the first time in thirty years, a government, in the Dominion of Canada, has intervened in a battle for the control of a Canadian Company; and has ordered an investigation.

G. T. Clarkson, of Toronto, has received an appointment from the Hon. C. H. Cahan, Secretary of State, to investigate the business of the Yukon Consolidated Gold Corporation Limited, which has important mining operations in the Klondike; and which represents an investment of \$6,000,000.

The government investigation is the result of a petition on the part of a large group of English shareholders, represented by John Thomas Patton, of London, England. The Hon. C. H. Cahan is acting in accordance with a statute, as enacted in 1902, in ordering this investigation.

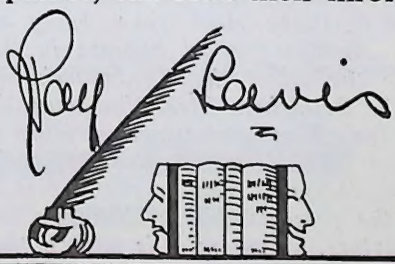
The petition states general mismanagement and the issue of too much stock. The headquarters of the Yukon Consolidated Gold Corporation Limited, is at Ottawa; and the company has been involved in a series of litigations. In the performance of his authority, the Secretary of State has cancelled a shareholders' meeting which was called for December 30th, until Mr. Clarkson, who is conducting the investigation, can make his report.

There are approximately 1,200 shareholders resident in England, who have pooled their shares, just as the Minority Shareholders of the Famous Players pooled their shares and gave Mr. Arthur Roebuck, authority to vote for them. In the case of the Yukon shareholders, John Thomas Patton was appointed to represent the shareholders in a fight for control of the company.

The Secretary of State is empowered to order the investigation; and the sequel to this investigation is a matter for the courts to decide, following the report of Mr. Clarkson.

It is likely, that following the government investigation of Famous Players, the Secretary of State may be appealed to, on behalf of the Minority Shareholders, to order an investigation dealing with the absorption of Famous Players Canadian Corporation, by Paramount-Publix; and legal procedure may follow a report on the findings.

In the meantime the public is to be invited to the public hearings; and exhibitors, distributors of pictures, or accessories, or minority shareholders, having any information bearing on the government's investigation of the Famous Players - Paramount-Publix, or their subsidiary companies, can send their information on to The Digest, to Arthur Roebuck, Sterling Towers, Toronto, counsel for the Minority Shareholders Protective Association of Famous Players, or to Peter White, K.C., Lumsden Bldg., Toronto, Commissioner for the Government's Investigation.



RAY



RAY LEWIS

PRESENTS

THE CALGARY ALBERTAN reports a move made throughout Canada for a chain of British theatres. There is no doubt about the possibility of a British chain of theatres in Canada, to counteract the Paramount-Publix control of Canada's dominant theatre chain, the Famous Players Canadian Corporation, which Paramount-Publix absorbed, despite the protest of 800 minority shareholders, holding approximately 100,000 shares. It seems that the attitude of the minority shareholders was entirely ignored in the negotiations by Paramount-Publix for Famous Players Canadian Corporation control.

All nations have considered the national aspect of the screen, not only as a basis for the nationalization of new citizens, but as a nation builder by way of instilling national ideals and stimulating trade and commerce. There is, perhaps, no dominion of the British Empire more British in its spirit than the Dominion of Canada, and living in such close contact with a neighboring nation, Canadians are interested, that Canada retains its identity as a distinct nation.

THERE is an undercurrent of extreme dissatisfaction that a Canadian enterprise, such as the Famous Players Canadian Corporation, after years of prosperity through Canadian financing and promotion, should become absorbed by Paramount-Publix.

If there had been any urgent necessity, owing to a weakening of the position of the Famous Players Canadian Corporation, a loss of revenue, or other exigencies of a similar order, the absorption of the Famous Players Canadian Corporation might have appeared excusable. In view of the fact that the Famous Players, just one year previous to its absorption by Paramount-Publix, was able to pay the Paramount-Publix \$8,000,000 for an original investment of \$100,000, this reveals that the Famous Players Canadian Corporation was financially able to take care of its future profitably as a Canadian enterprise.

As cited in the editorial, The Yukon Consolidated Gold Corporation Limited is under investigation, as ordered by the Secretary of State, the Hon. C. H. Cahan. Recently a notice appeared in the press, stating that a group of shareholders have issued a petition to restrain the R.K.O.-Pathe deal from being consummated. Another report appears in the daily press, to the effect that the shareholders are suing the Bethlehem Steel Company, demanding that the officers and directors return bonuses paid since 1911. The suit filed in the Court of Chancery, Newark, New Jersey, and is directed against the present officers, directors, and former directors, of whom it is alleged that these received bonuses to the extent of \$34,493,668. The suit asks that the controlling interests be

restrained from disposing of their stock until the Court has considered the order of restraint.

THE ACTION is the result of disclosures at the trial, last summer, at Youngstown, involving the Bethlehem - Youngstown steel merger. It was alleged that officers and directors were receiving bonuses many times larger than their salaries, and that the President, Mr. E. G. Grace, received in 1929 a bonus of \$1,623,000. It looks as if an effort is going to be made, not only in the United States but in Canada, to protect public investment as represented by minority shareholders.

Investigation of the Paramount-Publix absorption of Famous Players Canadian Corporation is imperative in Canada, if the public is to continue to have any confidence in their investments in Canadian enterprises. If the Yukon Consolidated Gold Corporation Limited can cite mismanagement in their company, and have an investigation by the government, surely the shareholders of the Famous Players Canadian Corporation can cite mismanagement, when the directors and officers refused to accept a cash offer of \$75.00 a share from Gaumont British, citing American control as an excuse for their refusal; and when directors later on refused a Canadian syndicate's offer of \$60.00 cash a share, to accept an exchange of shares offer from Paramount-Publix which gave the minority shareholders about \$43.00 a share value on a falling market.

WAS this good management on the part of the directors and officers? What have the officers, who constituted a trust in order to keep the Famous Players Canadian Corporation under Canadian control for a period of ten years, to say to their actions of selling out the shareholders to foreign control?

If the Bethlehem Steel Company's shareholders are protesting that the President was given a bonus of \$1,623,000, what have the shareholders of the Famous Players Canadian Corporation to say about the millions which some officers took out of the Famous Players Canadian Corporation, and how did the President of the company manage to secure \$8,000,000 for Paramount-Publix out of an investment of \$100,000? There is no record of any such sum of money being divided among minority shareholders.



"East Lynne" As Road Show Under Consideration

Road showings for "East Lynne" in advance of its regular release are under consideration by J. R. Grainger, Vice-President in charge of distribution for Fox Films. After viewing scenes from the picture during his visit to Hollywood, Mr. Grainger announced that he was seriously studying the advisability of making an exception to the policy inaugurated about three months ago by which Fox Films would road show no more pictures.

Perkins Installations

The Perkins Electric Company, Limited, report installation of Morelite Lamps, Walker Sound Screen and Transverter in the Paramount Theatre, Hanover, Ont., Simplex machines in the Royal George Theatre, Toronto, Ont., Simplex machines and Walker Sound Screen in Gregories Theatre, Acton, Ont.

(Special to Digest from Winnipeg)

A MOVE by British talking picture producers to wrest a large share of the Canadian theatrical business from Paramount-Publix Corporation was indicated this week as representatives of British concerns negotiated for purchases of a number of independent theatres in Canadian cities.

Gaumont, Ltd., was reported leading the attempt of British producers to regain a large share of the market lost to Paramount-Publix.

J. R. Stewart, owner of a theatre in Hamilton, Ont., admitted he had been approached by representatives of the British firms, and similar advances were made to owners of independent houses in Toronto, Windsor, London, and other large Ontario cities.

THE INDEPENDENT owners of Motion Picture houses in Winnipeg have not yet seen any representatives of the Gaumont British Picture Corporation asking for prices on their houses, or leases, but they expect to hear from the corporation any day now, they stated to The Digest correspondent.

These British producers and their United States affiliated organizations claimed that their pictures are not getting a fair show in screenings in Winnipeg and the West, and just as soon as the time is ripe, Winnipeg house owners believe that a concerted effort will be made to get a larger showing of the products of the British studios into the West.

HENRY MORTON, President of the Garrick Theatres, Ltd., is owner of four theatres in Winnipeg, as well as a number in farther eastern centres; he has not yet been approached, but is maintaining a waiting attitude.

Charles Miles, Managing Director of the Allied Amusements, owner of four theatres in Winnipeg, also has heard of the coming of British theatre men, but has not yet seen them. He believes they are waiting to see what success they may have in the east before moving west.

GEORGE LAW, representing Universal Film Corporation, lessees of the Lyceum, the Starland and College Theatres, states that any negotiations for the Universal theatres in Winnipeg would be made in the east, and he has heard nothing of the project recently.

H. M. Thomas, Divisional Manager of the Paramount-Publix and R.K.O. Capitol, does not see much future for such an undertaking as mentioned in the dispatch, in the west. British and Fox pictures are having a good showing in Winnipeg theatres at present, and the public can judge for themselves of their merits.

Direct Simplex Factory Canadian Distributors For Twenty Five Years

For the past 25 years we have been selling and servicing SIMPLEX projectors, the machine used in every installation where quality counts. Don't be fooled, buy your Simplex machines and get your Simplex repairs from PERKINS ELECTRIC COMPANY, LIMITED, direct factory representatives.

New Simplex Accessories

Lens focusing attachment for Micro adjustment.
Rear shutter assemblies for Simplex machines.
Triple lens turrets for Simplex machines.

} Write for Folder.

Walker Sound Screens

The advent of Sound Pictures has brought with it many revolutionary changes in motion picture theatres. And this is especially true of the Screen. It is now well known that next to the sound-reproducing apparatus itself, the most important adjunct to good results is the use of a screen that permits transmission of sound without the sacrifice of light for the picture.

Walker Sound Screens are used in all Publix—R.K.O.—Fox Theatres—enough said—buy the best—buy Walker.

Perkins Electric Company Limited
TORONTO . . . MONTREAL

The New Film on Broadway

By Betty Ross

"THE CRIMINAL CODE," a Columbia Production from the play by Martin Flavin. Directed by Howard Hawks, featuring Walter Huston.

From time to time a motion picture player will achieve such popular appeal that several new releases on Broadway will flash his name in electric lights at the same time. There are two such stars now, Walter Huston of "Gentlemen of the Press," "The Bad Man" and "Abraham Lincoln" fame, and Phillips Holmes, son of Taylor Holmes, matinee idol of yesterday, who are both featured in the season's most complete picture of prison life, "The Criminal Code."

Actually the "criminal code" means not to "squeal" on a fellow-inmate and if the malefactors recognize no other, it is an unwritten law with them to punish an informer with death.

This story hinges about the bad fortune of a youth, Robert Graham, played by Phillips Holmes, who has without preconceived intent, murdered a man. There is a big court scene the result of which is a prison sentence for the boy. For six years he drags himself through a gray, hopeless and miserable existence in the strenuous confines of a jute mill where he is condemned to labor. With the entrance of a new warden on the scene, his evil star lights.

This warden, played by Walter Huston, is politically ambitious, but nevertheless human. He brings with him a charming young daughter, Mary, and young Graham is chosen to act as the Warden's chauffeur and general handy man to the daughter.

Starved so long for sympathetic and womanly understanding, he very naturally falls in love with Mary. She, young and impressionable, reciprocates his affections. A new life begins for the condemned youth.

During a prison riot, a man is murdered and Robert is the chief witness to the crime. Immediately pressure is brought to bear upon him to make him divulge the name of the killer. Despite a week of torture to break him down, he will not be an informer but remains true to the "criminal code."

There is not praise enough for the reserved eloquence of Walter Huston's sympathetic handling of the role of warden. The man is not acting any character he assumes, but lives it. Phillips Holmes is very convincing and appealing as the boy who unluckily fell into a bad situation. This portrayal stamps him as well deserving of his recently won laurels and Constance Cummings, a newcomer to the talkies, makes a sweet Mary Brady, the Warden's daughter. De Witt Jennings and Boris Karloff stand out for their respective performance in the play.

* * * *

"ONE HEAVENLY NIGHT," Goldwyn Production. Story by Louis Bromfield and Sidney Howard. Directed by George Fitzmaurice and featuring Evelyn Laye, John Boles and Leon Errol.

It took the collaboration of a prize-winning author and a prize-winning playwright to turn out "One Heavenly Night" and in spite of its rather hackneyed title, this musical romance makes a very enjoyable film.

England's contribution to the American stage and screen, blonde and wholly adorable Evelyn Laye, is not only a beautiful woman but a real actress. She com-

bines emotional appeal with rare physical charm, and an equally beautiful voice. Her melodious love scenes with the dark and good-looking John Boles are unforgettable to the romantically inclined.

Mr. Boles, by the way, is about the screen's handsomest actor at present and his throbbing voice adds to his allure, making him and Miss Laye well-matched screen lovers.

The scene is laid in some picturesque spot between Austria and Hungary. A notorious actress gets into a scrape that sets the police on her trail. A night club flower girl is pressed into service to substitute for the star and hide away in luxurious banishment to mislead the police.

In her exile in the picturesque spot, she meets the devastatingly handsome young Count who rules that principality. His original "intentions" towards her are not honorable, but in two days with this fragile creature of fire and ice, he succumbs to true love, and in memorable scenes, consisting mostly of tender love songs, the two declare their mutual passion.

Lilyan Tashman, past mistress of splendid sinner roles, gives a smooth performance of the irrepressible cabaret girl who gets into trouble. Leon Errol is responsible for the rib-tickling comedy of this picture. His collapsible knees are a never-failing laugh provoker. Much of the story is sheer nonsense, but of purest delight, and the charm of Miss Laye's beauty and voice, offset by the equally fine-voiced John Boles, helps make "One Heavenly Night" a picture away above the average.

* * * *

"NIGHT BIRDS," an Elstree Production of England, directed by Richard Eichberg, scenario by Victor Kendall, photography by Henry Gartner.

As far as is known, "Night Birds" is the first English picture to introduce underworld night life of the Chicago variety and gangsters into their stories. They have even absorbed the patois of American gangland and it is highly interesting to hear young English actresses speaking the language of the gunman's "Moll."

Mr. Eichberg has accomplished a piece of mastery in the adroit shading of each character, making him stand out as distinctively as a well-defined portrait, detective, night club performer, underworld baron or thug. Actual artistes from the best known clubs entertain on the floor. There is much mystery concerning stolen jewels, Scotland Yard operatives and much comedy.

The names of the gangsters are rather incongruous to those who are familiar through much tabloid and photoplay contact with Chicago's pet names for its gun-toting fraternity. "Toothpick Jeff" and "Dancer Johnny" would hardly be tolerated, we imagine, by the pick of our underworld denizens.

But in spite of these unusual "handles" attached to their gangsters, "Night Birds" is all in all, not an unpleasing affair, being fraught with mystery, and abounding in good cabaret entertainment. There is one exciting scene where a detective learning of a plot to rob a duchess during the play, takes the comedian's place on the stage, and at the right moment, is carried by wires through the air to land plump in the titled lady's lap in time to save her gems!

Observations



By The Editor

THE PRESS heralded the event of a new Hollywood at Windsor, Ont., when Fred W. Martin, Canadian promoter of the Windsor-Detroit tunnel, stated that he had just returned from New York, after securing the signatures of a group of producers in the U.S., ratifying a ten-year lease on a property on Oulette Avenue, Windsor, for the purpose of erecting a studio at Windsor, in which to produce British Quota films, in order to meet the requirements of the Quota Act of the United Kingdom.

It was stated that the British Gaumont, and the British Gaumont Canada, are the two companies to be associated with the producing unit.

* * * *

SOME time ago, we heard a great deal in connection with producing plans at Montreal; and an event was staged at which American film stars were present, and in which the Canadian Air Force took a prominent part.

We have not heard whether the "Air Force" gave the proposition "the air," after the big party, but all is strangely quiet; and therefore we never raise any perspiration when there is an announcement of a Canadian producing company in the press.

* * * *

AT PRESENT, we are satisfied to find a market for British Films here; and more than satisfied that England is able to send us quality, and quantity by way of films to support this market.

It has taken England sixteen years to produce a necessary number of British Films, and the quality to create a market on the American continent, and Canada is not presumptuous enough to presume that we can jump into the production of pictures to fill Quota regulations, and to create a market where England has, until 1930, failed to make an impression.

* * * *

CANADA is at present interested in establishing an open market here, where films compete with each other under favorable competitive conditions. Canada is interested in keeping her screens Canadian-controlled, and stimulating the distribution of British films of which there is a substantial quantity.

This is as big a job as Canada at present can handle; and Canada is in need of keeping her finances in reserve for a Canadian-controlled theatre chain, a British film market, and a Canadian Film Industry which protects the interests of all the units which form her film interests here.

* * * *

LET US handle one job at a time! First let us get the control of the Famous Players back into Canadian control, so that we have a theatre market at home, at least, should we participate in the production for distribution of British Films.

Let us keep the film market here free from Combine, and Monopoly Control, so that we can trade with all countries which have films to market here; and primarily, let us protect those film interests which have established trading centres here, so that their investment in Canada may be profitable.

Calgary Albertan

The Calgary Albertan reports on the possibilities of a British chain of theatres in Canada, which gained an impetus while the Rt. Hon. R. B. Bennett was conducting the Imperial Economic negotiations in London. The article is headed, "British Film Magnates Plan Wrestling Share of Canadian Business," and further proceeds as follows:

"Toronto, Jan. 7.—A special dispatch to the Toronto Telegram from London, Ont., Tuesday, said:

"An impending fight by British talking picture producers to wrest a large share of the Canadian theatrical business from Paramount-Publix Corporation was rumored in local motion picture circles Tuesday when it was learned representatives of British concerns were negotiating for the purchase of a number of independent theatres in Canadian cities.

"Paramount-Publix made deep inroads of the business in Canada when it gained control several months ago of Canadian Famous Players. Gaumont, Limited, was reported leading the attempt of several British producers to regain a large share of the lost market."

Survey Taken.

According to the Telegram, impetus was given the present efforts of British producers to improve their pictures and secure a better market in Canada, by Prime Minister R. B. Bennett while he was in England recently. The Prime Minister requested Mrs. Joshua Smith, who is also known as Miss Ray Lewis of the Canadian Moving Picture Digest, to take a survey of the situation. During this survey, the film department of the Federation of British Industries asked British producers to supply Mrs. Smith with all information.

Producer Visits.

The Telegram declared a large producer from Great Britain was in Canada recently, and acquired options in six strategic cities in this country. This producer was said to be working with British International Films, Limited, "which holds a contract with the only moving picture exchange in Canada dealing with the release of British films in the Dominion." This contract is declared to be the largest ever effected for the release of British pictures abroad.

"J. R. Stewart, owner of the Lyric Theatre in Hamilton, Ont., admitted he had been approached by representatives of the British firms, and it was learned from well-informed quarters that similar advances were made to owners of independent houses in Toronto, Windsor, London and other large cities."

Purchase Planned?

Winnipeg, Man., Jan. 7.—Independent theatre owners of Winnipeg believe the Gaumont British Picture Corporation will seek purchase of picture houses here and in the West. They believe, however, that the British company will wait until the success of purchases of independent theatres in the East has been determined.

There are several independent owners in Winnipeg who control from one to four theatres, including Charles Miles and Henry Morton. Both said Tuesday that they had heard rumors of the entry of the British films to the Western field, but that no effort to negotiate purchase had yet been made."

The IMPERIAL EIGHT Are Coming

THEY WILL INAUGURATE
A NEW PROSPERITY ERA
FOR CANADIAN THEATRES

Watch for Further Details

“The Bat Whispers”

AN interesting and novel picture is “The Bat Whispers” a United Artists feature which played Loew’s recently, and created much talk because of its unusual lighting effects, and its weird and fantastic photographic flashes.

“The Bat Whispers” is an adaptation of the stage success, called, “The Bat.” Some money, stolen from a bank, and hidden in a home, furnishes the inspiration for a visit from a killer, called “The Bat,” and also is the magnet which induces other crooks to make this home of the Flemings, the scene of much plotting, where thief double-crosses thief; and the “honor among thieves” theory receives a solar plexus blow which puts out the light of this adage as far as these crooks go.

The dialogue has been sacrificed to the action, and photographic effects; and here at least we will agree that action speaks louder than words, and furnishes more thrills also.

“The Bat Whispers,” has all the creepy atmosphere in the adaptation which Avery Hopwood, and Mary Roberts Rinehart injected into the drama, in other words, it is a glorified serial which heaps thrill upon suspense, and carries on in this tempo until the finish.

Technically, and mechanically, it is a wonder, in fact, if the dialogue were entirely omitted. “The Bat Whispers,” would be a feature from an angle of technical perfection. Great for the kids, and grown-ups as well.

Roland West gave “The Bat Whispers” just the right kind of direction to secure the mysterious atmosphere, and was helped greatly by a cast which not only suited their particular parts, but who entered into the spirit of this ghostly thriller. Chester Morris, as the pseudo-detective does excellent work. Maude Eburne, a Canadian, who originally hails from Bronte, Ontario, nearly stole the picture, on comedy scenes, in which she portrayed a frightened maid. Maude has had a habit of stealing the show away from stars on the stage; and now that she has blossomed forth in pictures, we will hear some more of Maude.

Una Merkel, Gustav Von Seyfferetz, as Dr. Venrees, and William Bakewell all had leading parts which contributed substantially to the success of this feature.

RAY LEWIS,

Editor, Canadian Moving Picture Digest

Toronto Theatres

LOEW'S—Manager Jules Bernstein—A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer picture starring Kay Johnson, Charles Bickford and Kay Francis. It is the story of the eternal triangle. Kay Johnson, the daughter of a wealthy man, marries her father's chauffeur, is disowned by her irate parent. However, the two young people live very happily until Kay Francis, the wealthy widow, appears. The husband is going to divorce his wife and marry the widow, but he realizes that he loves his wife and children.

UPTOWN—Manager Tom Daley—"Under Suspicion," a Fox picture featuring Lois Moran. The theme of the picture deals with the Canadian Northwest Mounted Police. The hero of the story is a young man who joins the mounted police, and who, to shield his younger brother, brings discredit upon himself, and also the displeasure of the girl he loves, Lois Moran. However, the hero proves his worth by saving the heroine's father and several other men who are caught in a forest fire.

TIVOLI—Manager Jimmy Lynch—The second week for Paramount's picture, "Morocco," still playing to a full house.

IMPERIAL—Manager H. V. Knevels—Edmund Lowe and Leila Hyams in "Part Time Wife," a Fox production. The story deals with a very busy business man, Edmund Lowe, who is always so busy with business matters that he is very neglectful of his wife, Leila Hyams, and leaves her alone most of the time. She finally decides to leave him, and the hero is too proud to ask her to come back. Strange as it may seem, and contrary to usual occurrences they are both reconciled through golf. Edmund Lowe plays his part exceedingly well, and a great deal of human interest is added by the young Irish boy, Tommy Clifford, who is the caddy.

SHEA'S—Manager Jerry Shea—A Warner production, "Maybe It's Love," a collegiate picture with the central interests revolving around football, the hero is shown making the winning touchdown for his team with one minute to go. The hero and heroine are James Hall and Joan Bennett.

Windsor, Ont. To Be

Canadian Hollywood

It is rumoured that Windsor has been chosen for the site of a Canadian Hollywood. A company consisting of several American interests, and having British Gaumont and British Gaumont of Canada associated with it, is to produce British pictures in Canada. It is expected that the new company will occupy its quarters about April 1st, and the work will commence almost immediately. A staff of 500 employees will be employed. The reason that is given for this move is that a provision in the British Tariff Act says when American film companies bring six films into the United Kingdom they have to bring one that has been produced on British soil.

"All Quiet on the Western Front"

Popular in Luxembourg

Germany has banned "All Quiet on the Western Front." Nevertheless, in the adjoining country of Luxembourg it is not only possible to see it, but the government in this German speaking state has ordered its entire army to look at "All Quiet on the Western Front," as the only true picture of Germany in the war. During three years of the war, Luxembourg was the headquarters of the German High Command.

Reduction In Ontario Censoring Fee

Premier Henry announced that there would be a reduction in the film censoring fee for Ontario. The fee that was hitherto paid was ten dollars for foreign films, and seven dollars for British films. The new price is six dollars for foreign films and three dollars for British films. This cut was made in an effort to have the censoring fee arrive at an equitable price in regard to the increased cost of sound films.

FOR SALE

A Theatre equipped for silent pictures. Seats 560. Has 6 Billiard Tables, and 2 Bowling Alleys, and Barber Shop in the basement. Has hardwood floors, steam-heated.

Apply **ERNEST FRISBY,**
NEW LISKEARD, ONT.

Simplex Headquarters!

Buy the Projector that is used by all the large Theatre Circuits.
Buy the Projector that is standard for over 200 Famous Players' Theatres in Canada.
Buy the Projector upon which every new development is first perfected.
Buy Simplex—From Coleman; the Simplex Headquarters!

Our Prices cannot be beaten. Our Service is just that, not a name,
And our Simplex stock is shiny new — not obsolete.
BUY SIMPLEX — FROM COLEMAN!

NEW SIMPLEX DEVELOPMENTS — AND THE PRICE TOO!

Simplex Lens Focusing Assembly. An attachment, easily installed that brings the usual focusing knob across to a micrometer adjustment knob located just above the main mechanism door. Very handy and accurate.
Each \$7.00

Simplex Adjustable Blade Shutter. The old two wing Shutter had blades wide enough to take care of any possible operating condition. The new shutter has an adjustable edge simultaneous on both blades so that the width may be adjusted to a minimum just clear of travel ghost. This means an increase in illumination over the old shutter in many cases up to 25% or more. Price each with hub \$10.00

Simplex Triple Lens Turret. A complete new lens carrier with fittings, carrying three independently focused projection lenses, swinging from one to the other as desired. One lens may be used on track, one on disc or silent, and one for any effects it may be decided to employ. All standard projection lenses are accommodated. Price each with fittings and instructions \$150.00

Drop us a line for further information.

"Courtesy With Service"

THE COLEMAN ELECTRIC Co. - 258 Victoria St. - Toronto, Ont.



Show Business



(Special to Digest from Winnipeg)

River Heights, a fashionable residential suburb of Winnipeg, will have a large moving picture theatre and one architecturally ambitious. After months of controversy, the zoning board of the Winnipeg City Council decided January 10 to allow Allied Amusements, Ltd., to include the fourth lot back from Academy Road in its site at the south-west corner of Ash St. Under the by-laws, only the first three lots could be built on, but the zoning board has been given power by the City Council to amend the zoning by-law.

Permit for the theatre to cost \$150,000 has been issued. The company has undertaken to erect a building conformable to plans calling for architectural features, spacious lobbies, accommodation for 1,628 people in seats giving patrons ample room. Furthermore, the company agrees to provide a parking space at the south-east corner of Academy Road and Waterloo St., 80 feet by 100 feet.

At the back of the theatre a vacant strip of seven feet will separate it from the adjoining property.

On Academy Road the building will be set back seven feet as provided in the River Heights zoning by-law, and on Ash St. the company must observe the 30-foot alignment kept by the rest of the street.

Independent and chain motion picture interests of the province of Saskatchewan joined in an association of exhibitors organized at a meeting held in Regina, Jan. 9. The name Saskatchewan Motion Picture Exhibitors was chosen.

P. W. Mahon, Prince Albert, was elected President; Harry D. Marrs, Moose Jaw, Vice-President; H. A. Berovich, Regina, Secretary, and Pete Egan, Regina, Treasurer.

When the Ontario Provincial Government finished the year with a deficit of \$628,000, P. J. Nolan of Ottawa, chairman of the Independent Exhibitors Amusement Tax Committee, announced that further efforts on the part of the committee to secure reductions in the ticket tax would be temporarily halted. The last tax relief was the abolishment of the tax on tickets having a face value up to 25c but the exhibitors wanted this extended to tickets up to 50c.

Prevented from entering the theatre because it was already packed, boys secured a 25-foot ladder and raised it to an open window of B. F. Keith's Theatre, Ottawa. A second line-up developed on the side street for the privilege of climbing the ladder until theatre employees spotted the means of access and ejected a number of the youths. Appropriately, the title of the attraction was "The Cat Creeps" which registered big business.

An action entered by the Canadian Performing Rights Society against alleged copyright offenders was dismissed when Magistrate Browne of the Toronto Police Court ruled that it was not a matter for the criminal courts in Canada. No move was made by the society to transfer the case to the civil courts.

(Special to Digest from Ottawa)

Apart from unemployment problems and relief for wheat farmers of the Canadian West, the issues for the session of the Canadian Parliament at Ottawa, opening February 26, will be the question of copyright control and the proposal for the establishment of a National system of radio broadcasting for the Dominion. The opponents on the copyright tangle, the Canadian Performing Rights Society and the Musical Protective Association, are vitally interested in the outcome and have organized for the approaching battle. Colonel John A. Cooper, President of the Motion Picture Distributors of Canada, is the chieftain of the Musical Protective Association and is representing the exhibitors, annual fairs and broadcasting stations in their fight against the Performing Rights Society.

The Society hopes to secure a revision of the Canadian Copyright Act which would enable it to collect annual seat license fees from theatres without registering the assignments of musical compositions, which it claims to hold, at Ottawa.

The moving picture operators of Quebec cities and the Province of Quebec Safety League are co-operating in seeking from the Quebec Provincial Government consideration of projection conditions in all theatres of the Province with a view to increasing the element of safety. Leading theatre men are members of the Safety League's Theatre Committee, namely, George Nicholas, Managing Director of United Amusements, Ltd., operating a chain of 20 houses; Maurice West, Secretary of the Province of Quebec Theatre Owners Association, and L. I. Bearg, District Manager of Famous Players Canadian Corp.

John F. Myers, manager of the Imperial Theatre, Sarnia, Ontario, is dead following an emergency operation, performed a few days ago. Myers had only just been elected an Alderman of Sarnia for 1931 when he was rushed to the hospital. He had been identified with Sarnia theatre projects during the past 10 years, previous to which he had resided in Franklin, Pa. The Imperial Theatre is now controlled by Famous Players.

After only three months' trial, Publix stage units will be withdrawn from the Capitol Theatre, Montreal, on January 22, the big house reverting to a straight picture policy. This leaves the Imperial Theatre, Toronto, as the only Canadian house with Publix presentations. The plan for a circuit of Canadian houses featuring Publix presentations has gone smash. One reason for the defection in Montreal was that the French-speaking population did not take kindly to the stage acts.

An interesting case involving payment for clock advertising in the theatre at Huntsville, Ontario, has been heard in the Division Court at Toronto in the suit of the Central Finance Corp. against Mayor Israel Ginsberg of Huntsville for \$202.80 as payment for two advertising "spaces" in the theatre's illuminated clock. Mayor Ginsberg had failed to pay the account, it was stated, because the two passes for one year, which he had received from the clock salesmen, were not honored by the theatre manager.

Round About the Studios



Edwina Booth, lovely blonde Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer player.

Frank Sheridan, well known character actor, will depict the role of David Bruce, Sr., and William V. Mong, also celebrated for his character delineations, will portray the role of Colonel Marshall in Columbia's thrilling tale of life in the Mississippi valley, entitled, "The Flood." James Tinling is directing with Monte Blue in the leading role and Eleanor Boardman in the featured feminine part.

Gertrude Astor is the latest addition to the cast of "Platinum," Tiffany's forthcoming story of the underworld, produced by James Cruze.

Other players in the cast include Luke Cosgrove, Richard Tucker, Murdock McQuarrie, Frank Hagney, Babe Lawrence, Marty Faust and Harry Strang.

Rita LaRoy, Radio Pictures' featured "vamp," also signed a new contract today with this organization. She made her screen debut in Cecil DeMille's "Dynamite." Since then she has played in Radio's "Lovin' The Ladies," "Midnight Mystery," "The Conspiracy," "Leathernecking" and "Check and Double Check." She played one of the three leading roles in "Sin Takes a Holiday."

His outstanding work in "So This Is College," "In Gay Madrid" and other recent pictures, has won Oscar Rudolph a role unique in screen history. He plays Ivan, the boy gangster, in Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's "The Secret Six."

This week Columbia Pictures signed Edward Peil, Sr., and Otto Hoffman for the cast of "Phantom Hoofs," sixth production in a series of eight outdoor "Specials" that "Buck" Jones, western star, is making for the company. Jones portrays a novel role in this film, that of a gay caballero of California in the early 40's. The story is full of red blooded action and the typical "Buck" Jones thrills. Dorothy Revier, Columbia star, will depict the feminine lead.

Unit No. 1 of the Grantland Rice Sport-light Production Department left the day after Christmas for Lake Placid and Northern New York to photograph winter sporting events in this lake and mountain region for forthcoming Pathe releases.

Unit No. 2 has completed necessary arrangements and will shortly leave on its annual pilgrimage to the southland for the summer sports held each year during so-called winter months under the sunny skies of the southern States.

"It Would All Depend," a story by Daisy Wolff and Albert Payson Terhune, has been purchased by Radio Pictures, according to an announcement today by William Le Baron, Vice-President in charge of production. Plans call for early filming.

When Broadway theatre patrons see Nancy Gardner on the screen in the Fox Film production, "Doctors' Wives," they will be puzzled by her resemblance to the former Broadway star, Minna Gombell. Nancy Gardner and Minna Gombell are one and the same, the former theatre star having changed her name for professional reasons.

Miss Gardner, nee Gombell, was the star of "The Little Spitfire," "Nancy's Private Affair" and "Jimmie's Women."

Norman Foster, who had the male lead in "Young Man of Manhattan," will have a featured part in Edgar Selwyn's production of "Among the Married," now under way at the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer studio. The cast includes Leila Hyams, Mary Duncan and Hedda Hopper.

Warner Baxter, Lupe Velez and Roland Young have been selected for the principal roles in Cecil DeMille's new production, "The Squaw Man," which is slated to get under way early in February.

This is DeMille's first picture following "Madam Satan," and two months have been spent in preparation for the filming of the story.

The new DeMille film was adapted to the screen by Lenore J. Coffee and Lucien Hubbard, with dialogue by Elsie Janis.



Pathe News sound camion. This pioneer reel is in its 21st year of service.



Marie Dressler and Polly Moran demonstrate their exercises in "Reducing," their latest picture for Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer.

Marion Shilling, who was recently awarded a long-term contract by Pathe is the first brunette to be so favored by the studio which has long shown a preference for blondes by gathering together such outstanding ones as Ann Harding, Constance Bennett and Helen Twelvetrees.

When it was decided to make additional scenes for "Beyond Victory," a forthcoming all star production, little Miss Shilling was engaged for a leading role. So conspicuous was the talent she displayed that Pathe officials immediately placed her under contract with definite plans to feature her.

Six months ago Conchita Montenegro arrived in California from Spain, unable to speak a word of English, and last week she was assigned to play the feminine lead in the English dialogue production of "Never the Twain Shall Meet," M-G-M production.

This picture will be directed by W. S. Van Dyke, who made "Trader Horn," and will get under way in the near future.

Many of the scenes will be made on location, according to announced plans. The story is an adaptation of Peter B. Kyne's novel of the same name.

Adolphe Menjou has been assigned the chief male role in Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's production of "Among the Married," the adaptation of Vincent Lawrence's successful stage comedy of the same name.

This photoplay will be directed by Edgar Selwyn, whose last production was "War Nurse." Selwyn is dividing his time between directorial work for M-G-M and activities as a Broadway stage producer.

Leila Hyams and Mary Duncan have the principal feminine roles in "Among the Married," with other players to be announced shortly.

Raoul Walsh has marked January 21 as the starting date of the Fox picture, "Women of All Nations," in which Edmund Lowe, Victor McLaglen, El Brendel and Greta Nissen will be featured.